



**2012 SEC Soccer Tournament * Orange Beach, Ala.
Monday, October 29, 2012
Match 1 * Post-Match Quotes**

FINAL SCORE: No. 10 South Carolina 3, No. 7 Arkansas 2 (OT)

South Carolina Head Coach Shelley Smith

On South Carolina's 3-2 overtime win against Arkansas in the SEC Tournament first round ...

“Obviously, we’re thrilled to get a win. We came here and didn’t want to go home yet. We’ve been here and we know how enjoyable the tournament is, the excitement of trying to win a championship. We knew it was going to be a challenge for us and we are thrilled to get through the first round.”

On Stevi Parker's game-winning goal in overtime ...

“We thought we had chances on our set pieces against them and corners. Caroline [Gray] got the ball freshman-to-freshman and Stevi [Parker] put that ball in the net. We told them that they have to be able to put themselves out there and leave it all on the field. Stevi came up with a huge goal for us.”

On South Carolina's young players ...

“The young players have had a lot of experience this year by this point. They’ve learned a lot and it doesn’t quite feel like they’re freshmen anymore. They’ve been through the battles and learned from the mistakes and what they’ve done well, and I think that’s why we’re excited about this new season. Maybe we didn’t do all that well in the conference play during the regular season so we wanted to redeem ourselves and get a chance to play a little bit better. Hopefully, we will continue that into Wednesday.”

On facing second-seeded Texas A&M on Wednesday ...

“Unfortunately, when we played them the first time, we went down a player pretty early in the game, so I will take playing them with 11 much better than 10, so hopefully that goes better. They’re obviously a very strong team. They are dangerous offensively and they’re solid all over. It takes a bit to break them down and hold them from being a threat. They have a player up top that is very dangerous and that hurt us last time, leaving her in the box. We have to make sure we take care of business and not let them get free headers in the box and their set pieces, and hopefully we take advantages of opportunities as well.”

Arkansas Head Coach Colby Hale

On his team's 3-2 overtime loss to South Carolina in the SEC Tournament first round ...

“It was a great game. We never love giving up three goals, but we came back twice down. This team has kind of done it all year. We love their fight. We said ‘There’s only one team in the country that wins their last game, unfortunately,’ so you always kind of end on this note, but if we look back at this year, we exceeded everyone’s expectations. We had a ton of firsts for this program and we just told them we’re proud of them.”

On the competitive match and the overall competitiveness of SEC soccer ...

“There’s a ton of parity and there’s upsets. No game is an easy game, every game is a fight and a battle and I was just super proud of our kids. I thought they came to fight every game.”

On his first season with Arkansas' soccer program ...

“There’s a lot of firsts for this program. We have a lot of work to do as a coaching staff and as players, but this was an enormous step that we took in this first year. I think the girls are excited; they know there is much more to come in the future. We have a great corps of kids and we’re excited about our future.”